



# Messages From the Department of Education

February 2013

## State of New Hampshire Department of Education

101 Pleasant Street  
Concord, NH 03301  
(603) 271-3494 or  
1-800-339-9900  
TDD: 1-800-735-2964  
Fax: (603) 271-1953  
[www.education.nh.gov](http://www.education.nh.gov)

For more information  
please contact:  
Lori Temple  
Public Information Officer  
(603) 271-6646 or  
[Lori.Temple@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Lori.Temple@doe.nh.gov)

## Table of Contents

Accountability, Assessment, Curriculum, and School Improvement.....	Page 2
Data.....	Page 2
GED.....	Page 3
Grants and Requests For Proposals (RFP) .....	Page 3
NH High School Redesign .....	Page 4
Special Education.....	Page 5
Professional Development.....	Page 6
Department Staff Updates .....	Page 6
Resources .....	Page 7
Other	
• Awards.....	Page 7
• Grants.....	Page 9
• Conferences/Workshops.....	Page 9
• Misc. ....	Page 10

## ACCOUNTABILITY, ASSESSMENT, CURRICULUM, AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

---

### A. New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) Results

The results of the Fall 2012 New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) for grades three through eight and high school were released on January 31, 2013. Statewide performance of all students across grades three through eight, and eleven demonstrating proficiency in mathematics, reading and writing have remained, statistically, the same. More information can be found at [www.education.nh.gov/instruction/assessment/necap/index.htm](http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/assessment/necap/index.htm).

Contact: Keith Burke, (603) 271-3846, [Keith.Burke@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Keith.Burke@doe.nh.gov)

### B. Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium Update

#### a) Volunteer your school to participate in the second part of the Pilot Test

This is open to all NH schools. Volunteering schools will experience the released test items made available during the second half of the pilot test window. All schools are encouraged to volunteer to participate. Those interested can register via:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SmarterBalancedPilot>

#### b) Determine if your school possesses the technical requirements necessary for participation in SBAC testing

The SBAC online test delivery system will work on a variety of hardware/operating system configurations. Learn about these requirements and the tools available for assessing your school's technology readiness through NHEON:

<http://www.nheon.org/oet/readiness/index.htm>.

#### c) Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium Web Site

This site ([www.education.nh.gov/spotlight/ccss/sbac.htm](http://www.education.nh.gov/spotlight/ccss/sbac.htm)) provides an over view of Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) with brief discussions related to Achievement Level Descriptors, Technology Strategy Framework, and some Sample Assessment Items.

Contact: Scott J. Mantie, Ph.D. (603) 271-3844, [Scott.Mantie@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Scott.Mantie@doe.nh.gov)

## DATA

---

### A. i4see – Initiative for School Empowerment and Excellence

NH Alt Registration – The i4see workbench will be open for districts to register students for the Alternative Assessment process starting on February 4, 2013. The window will close on April 12, 2013. Email details have been sent to all district staff involved in the process. School districts should register all students who are the responsibility of the district, no matter where they attend school.

Contact: Sandy Hyslop, (603) 271-2831, [i4see.help@doe.nh.gov](mailto:i4see.help@doe.nh.gov)

### B. PerformancePLUS

The Data Use Network will present three webinars in February following the release of the October 2012 NECAP results. The webinar will provide an update on the new reporting

features of PerformancePLUS and coincide with the new NECAP data available for analysis. The three Webinars will be similar in content, so please sign up for just one.

Reviewing the Oct 2012 NECAP Test in P+

Monday, February 11, 2013 - 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

To register: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/933168880>

Reviewing the Oct 2012 NECAP Test in P+

Monday, February 11, 2013 - 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

To register: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/514366000>

Reviewing the Oct 2012 NECAP Test in P+

Thursday, February 21, 2013 - 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

To register: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/138564576>

### C. NH Statewide Data Use Conference

A focus on PerformancePLUS, NH Longitudinal Reports as well as Student Growth, Data Teams and the Educator Evaluation Model. This conference will be held Tuesday, March 12th from 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Registration will be available shortly.

Contact: Irene Koffink, (603) 271-3865, [Irene.Koffink@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Irene.Koffink@doe.nh.gov)

---

## GED

### A. GED Test® Update

Please disseminate this information to school staff members likely to be in contact with current or former students considering GED Testing. **The current generation of GED Tests will end on December 31, 2013.** Any test-taker who begins GED Testing but who does not complete and pass the entire test battery by the end of 2013 will have to start over.

A Request for Proposals for a 2014 High School Equivalency Test for New Hampshire has been issued. The test selected may be the 2014 GED Tests or an alternative assessment.

In the meantime, the primary goal now is to encourage students seeking the NH High School Equivalency Certificate to complete the current GED Tests before the end of 2013.

Contact: Debbie Tasker, (603) 271-6699, [Deborah.Tasker@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Deborah.Tasker@doe.nh.gov)

---

## GRANTS and REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

**ALL RFPs Can be Found on the Department Website at**  
[www.education.nh.gov/rfp/index.htm](http://www.education.nh.gov/rfp/index.htm)

### A. Alternative Education Programs

This Request for Proposal is released in anticipation of NH Legislature funding approval in Spring, 2013 for FY14 and FY15. Proposals have been submitted to the Governor's Office for

continued funding of Alternative Education programs for the next biennium. To attempt to ensure timely starts for Alternative Education programs we are releasing this anticipatory RFP prior to the legislative budget process in the Spring of 2013 for FY 14 and FY 15.

The New Hampshire Dropout Prevention and Dropout Recovery Oversight Council is currently seeking proposals from all interested applicants (school districts, community-based organizations, postsecondary institutions, faith-based organizations, agency collaboratives, etc.) to increase graduation rates by providing alternative education options to:

1. Increase current capacity to students at-risk of dropping out that are between the ages of 16 to 21 and enrolled in secondary education.
2. Collaborate with Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs to implement strategies and/or programs to serve underclassmen entering or enrolled in secondary education to achieve their graduation requirements.

Deadline for Receipt of Proposals 4:00 p.m., March 15, 2013

Contact: Susan Randall, (603) 271-3809, [Susan.Randal@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Susan.Randal@doe.nh.gov)

#### **B. Data Collection and Data Use Trainer**

The NH Department of Education is seeking individuals to assist with data collection, data analysis and training. Over the past several years, the Department and local education agencies (LEAs) have developed extensive tools and resources to enable educators to leverage data to inform instruction. These trainer(s) will help ensure districts and schools are submitting data required for the SLDS (State Longitudinal Data System) grant and will also assist school and district staff in understanding how to use the data. Proposals are due by 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 20, 2013.

Contact: Irene Koffink, (603) 271-3865, [Irene.Koffink@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Irene.Koffink@doe.nh.gov)

#### **C. Hearing Officer and Mediator**

The NH State Department of Education is currently accepting responses to its request for proposals for Hearing Officer and Mediator for the 2012-2013 biennium. Closing date for proposals is February 15, 2013; 4:00 p.m.

Contact: Stephen W. F. Berwick, (603) 271-2299, [Stephen.Berwick@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Stephen.Berwick@doe.nh.gov).

#### **D. Official Record Transcriber(s)**

The NH State Department of Education is currently accepting responses to its request for proposals for Official Record Transcriber(s) for the 2012-2013 biennium. Closing date for proposals is February 15, 2013; 4:00 p.m.

Contact: Stephen W. F. Berwick, (603) 271-2299, [Stephen.Berwick@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Stephen.Berwick@doe.nh.gov).

---

### **NH HIGH SCHOOL REDESIGN**

---

#### **A. High School Redesign in Action**

High School Redesign in Action is the New England Secondary School Consortium's fourth annual conference for secondary educators to share success stories and exchange best practices that will help schools prepare all students for success in the colleges, careers, and

communities of the 21st century. The conference will take place from 1:00 p.m. Thursday, March 21st until 2:15 p.m. Friday, March 22nd at the Four Points by Sheraton in Norwood, MA. For more information or to register go to [www.newenglandssc.org/conference](http://www.newenglandssc.org/conference).

## SPECIAL EDUCATION

---

### A. How To Write Age-Appropriate Measurable Annual IEP Goals

Special educators and related service providers will learn how to use the information from the present levels of performance to write a statement of what the child will learn and be able to do. They will learn the IDEA definitions of measurable annual goals and objectives. They will learn what needs to be included in the writing of age-appropriate measurable annual IEP goals and objectives to help build the students skills so they can access, participate, and make progress in the general curriculum. These Professional Development opportunities will be held at the NH Department of Education, Room 15 on:

- Monday, March 25, 2013, 12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. (middle school years 4th-7th grade)
- Monday, May 6, 2013, noon-3:00 p.m. (high school and transition/Post-Secondary)

The deadline to register is two weeks prior to the training in which you wish to attend.

Contact: Mary Steady, (603) 271-3730. [Mary.Steady@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Mary.Steady@doe.nh.gov)

### B. NH Special Education Information System (NHSEIS) Weekly Forum Schedule

Conference line number: 1-800-240-3895 - Conference Id: 600113

Date	Time
Friday, February 15 <sup>th</sup>	2:00 p.m.
Monday, February 25 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 a.m.
Thursday, March 7 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 a.m.
Thursday, March 14 <sup>th</sup>	2:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 19 <sup>th</sup>	3:00 p.m.
Friday, March 29 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 a.m.
Monday, April 8 <sup>th</sup>	11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, April 23 <sup>rd</sup>	2:00 p.m.

Contact: Terry Hersh, (603) 271-3775, [Terry.Hersh@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Terry.Hersh@doe.nh.gov)

### C. Secondary Transition and Indicator 13 Training

The Bureau of Special Education is offering two sessions. These sessions are free and you only need to register for one. The presenter will be Dawn Breault, Bureau of Special Education Technical Assistance Consultant.

Beyond Compliance: <i>Understanding your data &amp; the "whys" of decision-making in transition planning"</i>	March 11, 2013 (9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.) NHDOE, Room 15	Open to all NH High School Special Education Staff
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------

Beyond Compliance: <i>Understanding your data &amp; the “whys” of decision-making in transition planning”</i>	March 11, 2013 (2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.) NHDOE, Room 15	Open to all NH High School Special Education Staff
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------

Contact: Amy Jenks, (603) 271-3842, [Amy.Jenks@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Amy.Jenks@doe.nh.gov)

---

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

---

### A. “ED:ies Showcase of Excellence

In partnership with Southern New Hampshire University, the “ED”ies Board is proud to announce that the first annual Showcase of Excellence will take place on March 6th. This K-12 professional development opportunity will feature presentations focused on best practices around the state of New Hampshire that have been recognized as exemplary. Many are past recipients of “ED”ies Awards. Additionally, find out how you and your school can participate and apply for these prestigious awards. To register and for more information go to [www.edies.org](http://www.edies.org).

### B. NHVR Transition Internship

The NHVR Transition Internship for special education teachers and coordinators, transition coordinators, and other school staff is a no cost to you program designed to provide district personnel an opportunity to work closely with their local VR office and transition counselors. The project is intended to provide teachers with information regarding the VR program and process, adult agencies, employers’ needs, labor market information, disability legislation, etc. Application packets will be available in March, with submission of an application due in April. The dates for the program are July 9-26. Earn 3 graduate credits through Keene State College and receive a \$500 stipend from VR for completing the course. For more information visit [www.education.nh.gov/career/vocational/index.htm#intern](http://www.education.nh.gov/career/vocational/index.htm#intern).

Contact: Tina Greco, (603)-271-3993, [Tina.Greco@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Tina.Greco@doe.nh.gov)

### C. Retooling for the Common Core: Professional Learning for Measurable Results

The Learning Forward New Hampshire Conference will take place on Friday, March 15, 2013 at SNHU in Manchester. New Hampshire’s Professional Development Master Plan is closely aligned to Learning Forward’s *Standards for Professional Learning*. Stephanie Hirsh and Victoria Duff from Learning Forward will keynote this day-long conference. For more information or to register go to [www.lfnh.org](http://www.lfnh.org) or contact Deborah S. Roody, (603) 472-2062, [learningforwardnh@gmail.com](mailto:learningforwardnh@gmail.com).

---

## DEPARTMENT STAFF UPDATES

---

**Jeff Blaney** will be joining the Department as the Administrator for School Facilities on February 8th. He will be responsible for school facilities and school building aid as well as the Department liaison with Emergency Management, State Fire Marshal, and Environmental Services. His e-mail address is [Jeffrey.Blaney@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Blaney@doe.nh.gov).



---

## RESOURCES

---

### A. Collaboration Rings

A Collaboration Ring is a group of teachers who are interested in working with other teachers and classrooms with similar focus or interest. This could be a group formed along traditional grade level and subject lines or by other concepts such as Extended Learning Opportunities or Inclusion. Participants are connected with a Google Site and Google Group to get help, share resources, or develop shared projects. To join or for more information go to <https://sites.google.com/a/nheon.org/nhdrc-collaboration-ring/home>.

### B. Tuesday Telegraph

The Tuesday Telegraph is a brief newsletter distributed by the Office of Early Childhood. The news bulletin typically offers 3-4 items for your consideration including health, research, free materials, content support, and available professional development. The information is broad to engage a statewide audience of early childhood professionals, parents, and support systems within private and public entities. Back issues are available on the Early Childhood home page of the DOE Web site

[www.education.nh.gov/instruction/curriculum/early\\_learning.htm](http://www.education.nh.gov/instruction/curriculum/early_learning.htm). To receive the Tuesday Telegraph in your in-box please send your electronic address to: [Ellie.Riel@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Ellie.Riel@doe.nh.gov).

Contact: Ellie Riel, (603) 271-0078, [Ellie.Riel@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Ellie.Riel@doe.nh.gov)

---

## OTHER

---

### NH Teacher of the Year Nominations

Superintendents, principals, teachers, school staff members, teacher organizations, parents, and others interested in New Hampshire schools are encouraged to nominate an outstanding teacher by submitting their request to the New Hampshire Department of Education (NH DOE) by February 14, 2013. A Teacher of the Year candidate should be an exceptionally dedicated, knowledgeable, and skilled person from any state-approved or accredited school, pre-kindergarten through grade twelve, who intends to continue in the teaching profession. The purpose of the program is to select a teacher who is worthy of speaking for and energizing the teaching profession, and representing the positive contributions of all teachers statewide. Selecting a Teacher of the Year is an exceptional way to celebrate the many outstanding and dedicated people teaching in New Hampshire schools. Teacher of the Year nomination forms and applications can be downloaded from the DOE Web site at [www.education.nh.gov/recognition/toy.htm](http://www.education.nh.gov/recognition/toy.htm). Nominees must submit their applications to the NH DOE by March 19, 2013. All nominees who submit the required information will be honored at a ceremony in April.

Contact: Lori Temple, (603) 271-6646, [Lori.Temple@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Lori.Temple@doe.nh.gov)

### National Youth Science Camp for Two NH Students

Applications to attend the 2013 National Youth Science Camp are now available. Each year NH gets to send two students - all expenses paid - to West Virginia for National Youth Science Camp. Each high school may submit one candidate. An intent to apply survey can be found at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/QGN268F>. Applications and more information

can be found at [www.education.nh.gov/recognition/nysp.htm](http://www.education.nh.gov/recognition/nysp.htm). The application deadline is February 15, 2013.

Contact: Stan Freeda, (603) 271-5132, [Stanley.Freeda@doe.nh.gov](mailto:Stanley.Freeda@doe.nh.gov)

### **Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST)**

Nominations are now being accepted online until April 1, 2013 for the 2013 Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. The PAEMST online application will soon be available at [www.paemst.org](http://www.paemst.org). To apply, teachers must first be nominated for the award. Teachers may nominate themselves, or someone else (e.g., principals, teachers, parents, or other members of the general public) may nominate them for this award. Once nominated, teachers will receive an e-mail with a login and password to access the online application. The application deadline for secondary school teachers (grades 7-12) is May 1, 2013.

The Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching is the highest recognition that a kindergarten through 12th-grade mathematics or science teacher may receive for outstanding teaching in the United States. Awardees are recognized for their contribution to teaching and learning and their ability to help students make progress in mathematics and science. In addition to honoring individual achievement, the goal of the award program is to exemplify the highest standards of mathematics and science teaching.

Contact: Jiffi Rainie, (603) 271-7450, [jennifer.rainie@doe.nh.gov](mailto:jennifer.rainie@doe.nh.gov) (for science)  
Christine Downing, (603) 863-3540 x109, [cdowning@sau43.org](mailto:cdowning@sau43.org) (for mathematics)

### **NH School Nurse of the Year**

Each year the New Hampshire School Nurses Association (NHSNA) gives school districts throughout the state the opportunity to nominate their school nurse for "NH School Nurse of the Year." This award recognizes an outstanding school nurse for her contributions to the school and community. To be eligible for this award your school nurse must meet the following criteria: is a registered professional nurse; has been practicing school nursing for a minimum of three (3) years; is a member of the New Hampshire School Nurses Association this year and the prior year without lapse of membership; and show evidence of excellence in school nursing practice. For more information please go to [www.nhschoolnurses.org/SchoolNurseofYear.html](http://www.nhschoolnurses.org/SchoolNurseofYear.html). Deadline for nominations is Friday, February 15, 2013.

### **Doris Barnes Retired Educator Lifetime Achievement Award**

The Board of Director's for the New Hampshire Excellence in Education Award (The "ED"ies) is seeking nominees for the "retired educator of the year" award. Known as the "Doris Barnes Retired Educator Lifetime Achievement Award." This award was created to honor a retired teacher or teachers who have continued to work with youth and the betterment of public education after his/her retirement as has the person for whom it is named. A nominee must be retired after spending a minimum of 20 years as a full-time educator. It is also expected that the nominee can describe how they have stayed involved working with youth or on other vital issues related to education since retirement. For an application or more information go to [www.edies.org](http://www.edies.org). The application deadline is March 15, 2013.



**2013 NH High School Short Film Festival**

The New Hampshire Film & Television Office, an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources, will once again present the New Hampshire High School Short Film Festival, which will take place in June 2013. Students from NH public and private high schools are encouraged to submit projects no longer than 7 minutes in length, which do not have to be created as part of a class assignment. The submission period closes March 31, 2013. More details are available at [www.nhstudentfilm.com](http://www.nhstudentfilm.com). Media arts faculty interested in receiving updates about the Festival via e-mail should contact [film@nh.gov](mailto:film@nh.gov).

**National School Change Awards**

This initiative of the National Principals Leadership Institute is co-sponsored by the American Association of School Administrators and recognizes six schools across America for having significantly changed for the better. Schools measure themselves against 16 specific criteria and consider the degree to which they have improved, grown, and significantly changed. This is a very valuable process, perhaps even more important than being one of the six awardees each year. A downloadable application form and more information is available at [www.npli.org/nsca](http://www.npli.org/nsca). Nominations must be received by March 13, 2013.

**Arts Education FY 2014 Grants Information Workshop**

On Tuesday, February 26, from 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 pm. the NH State Council on the Arts will hold a Grants Information Workshop. This free workshop will introduce educators, principals, parents and artists to grant guidelines, application forms and strategies for developing a quality grant application. The day includes an overview of three grant programs; sharing of previous model projects, other grants resources, guest speakers and grants writing tips. NH State Council on the Arts grants are a public investment in the cultural life and education of our young people. Two upcoming grants are:

- a) **Artist Residency in Schools (AIR)** grants provide partial funding to bring juried teaching artists into classrooms and public schools to support creative learning and skills development in the arts. AIR grants support partial costs for artist residencies in a variety of arts disciplines. Postmark Deadline: April 12, 2013
- b) **Youth Arts Project Grants: For Extended Arts Learning (YAP)** fund high-quality arts and cultural education programs that encourage creativity, develop new arts skills and foster academic success for young people. The overall goal of this grant offered by the NH State Council on the Arts is to provide young people increased opportunities to engage in the arts beyond the normal school day so that they can develop creative problem solving skills and become more engaged with their communities. Activities may take place after regular school hours, in the summer or on weekends, in or/and outside of the school. Partnerships between schools, arts organizations and community organizations are encouraged. Postmark Deadline: April 19, 2013

To learn more about grants, guidelines or for more information contact Catherine O'Brian at [Catherine.R.OBrian@dcr.nh.gov](mailto:Catherine.R.OBrian@dcr.nh.gov), (603) 271-0795. or visit: [www.nh.gov/nharts](http://www.nh.gov/nharts).

**LESCN 5th Annual Spring Conference**

*Educating in the 21st Century...and Beyond! An Educator's Guide to Personalized Learning in the Cloud* will take place Monday, April 1, 2013, 8:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. at Church Landing at

Mills Falls in Meredith. For more information and a link for online registration please visit [www.srpdc.com](http://www.srpdc.com).

Contact: Tammy Morse, (603) 543-4200 ext. 261, [tmorse@sau6.k12.nh.us](mailto:tmorse@sau6.k12.nh.us)

### **Living on the Edge of Empire: Alliance, Conflict and Captivity in Colonial New England**

Presented by the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, the Living on the Edge of Empire workshop places the Deerfield Raid of 1704 in the broader context of the history of colonial New England. Workshop scholars will explore global issues while also considering ways in which this history can offer a compelling entry point for teaching the complexities of the early American colonial period and the many cultural groups who comprised it –Native nations, enslaved Africans, the French and English settlers. This Workshop will take place in Deerfield, Massachusetts, from July 7 to July 12, 2013 or July 28 to August 2, 2013. For more information go to <http://edge-empire.deerfield-ma.org>.

### **Fisher Cats Educational Days**

The New Hampshire Fisher Cats have announced the team's Educational Days for the 2013 season. Schools can choose from the following games:

- April 10th (10:35 a.m.)
- April 25th (10:35 a.m.)
- May 8th (10:35 a.m.)

Join schools from across the State as they take part in an educational setting while attending a professional baseball game. The Fisher Cats encourage you to plan your lesson plans around your field trip to the park. There will also be:

- Interactive educational material on the video board
- Pre-Game educational activities on the field
- Educational exhibits and entertainment on the concourse
- Historical characters walking around the stadium

Tickets for this event are offered at a discounted rate and vary from \$5-\$8. For more information or to book your group go to

[www.milb.com/team2/page.jsp?ymd=20100513&content\\_id=10015030&vkey=team2\\_t463&ext=.jsp&sid=t463](http://www.milb.com/team2/page.jsp?ymd=20100513&content_id=10015030&vkey=team2_t463&ext=.jsp&sid=t463) or contact Stephanie Fournier at (603) 641-2005 ext. 105 or e-mail [sfournier@nhfishercats.com](mailto:sfournier@nhfishercats.com).